

Town of Arlington

Transportation Advisory Committee

Minutes of 12/9/09, 7:15 pm to 10:00 pm, Town Hall Annex, Second Floor Conf. Room.

Minutes submitted by Laura Wiener.

Members and Associates Present: Elisabeth Carr-Jones, Jean Clark, Steve Kurland, Howard Muise, Ed Starr, Laura Wiener; Arriving late were Scott Smith, Jeff Maxtutis, John Lentz

Visitors Present: Heather Burton

1. Public Comments: none.
2. Administration.
 - Minutes of 11/4/09 were approved unanimously.
 - Correspondence and other handouts were reviewed.
 - Submittals for Selectmen's meetings were reviewed
3. School Parking Plaques. Elisabeth distributed a handout called "School Area Signs for Arlington Schools", developed by the TAC to standardize signs in school zones. She proposed adding a small plaque that would go below a "No Parking" sign that reads "When School is in Session". Adopted unanimously.
4. Discussion: Highland/High Haith—Stop sign requested for High Haith Road. Will need to collect traffic count and accident data to assess if it is justified. Ed will contact Corey.
5. Discussion: Eustis Street. Request for speed table. Need to collect traffic count and accident data to assess. Ed will contact Corey.
6. Intersection Study. Laura reported that the State has offered to assist communities in studying regionally important intersections. Engineers and planners from MAPC and MassDOT will come to Arlington on December 15 to look at the intersection of Mass Ave. and Route 60, with the crossing of the Minuteman Bikeway. Will meet with Laura, Ed, Scott, Jeff, Mike.
7. TAC Social. On January 13 we will have a short business meeting followed by a social gathering at the Masonic Temple, pot luck style.
8. Bus Shelters. MBTA still has a program for providing bus shelters for free to communities, paid for by advertising. There are 7 shelters proposed for the Mass. Ave. project area, budgeted for \$105,000. If funded by MBTA, could free up funds for other things on Mass. Ave. Sustainable Arlington and EALS have expressed support for bus shelters. Will community tolerate advertising. Laura will look into need for warrant article to allow advertising not associated with a specific location.
9. Discussion: Street signs. Request for more street signs at intersections in Town, as proposed by Erik Moore. Need info on cost. Generally agree that it's a good idea if it can be implemented economically.
10. Schools.
 - a. Stratton. Drop off needs tuning. Two people needed to manage drop off. Special needs bus drop-off causing delays. Meeting needed with principal and coordinator to work out bugs.
 - b. Peirce. SRTS Coordinator needs to get volunteers. Speed signs still needed.
 - c. Dallin. Safe Routes funding (State and Federal) for sidewalks require DOT 25% design hearing, not yet scheduled.
 - d. Bracket. Plenty of volunteers. Principal has not yet sent out survey.
11. Bicycle Safety. Scott reported that Selectmen asked TAC to work with Police and ABAC (Arlington Bicycle Advisory Committee) on bicycle traffic issues, such as sidewalk riding, conflicts with pedestrians, and enforcement. Scott predicted recommendations would be a combination of education, enforcement, engineering and encouragement. Proposed joint working group with ABAC and TAC to make recommendations to Police and then Selectmen. Engineering needed for improved bike path crossing at Mass. Ave in Arlington Center. Scott will lead, as he is on both committees. Elisabeth will represent walkers. Jeff will help with intersection recommendations.

12. Vision 2020 Survey. Laura distributed Vision 2020 survey questions, developed by subcommittee of Carol Kowalski, Ed, Howard, Laura. Focus is on access and parking in Arlington Center. Scott requested inclusion of a question about getting to the Center without a car.
13. Green Line Update. Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) released, proposing a 2 phase project. First phase goes to College Ave, funding mostly by federal government, built by 2014, with a 2nd phase to Route 16, funded by state and federal, built between 2016 and 2020. Selectmen have submitted a comment letter urging State to build both phases at once, and submitting a letter from TAC was discussed. Laura and Ed will meet with Medford Greenline Neighborhood Alliance to learn more and decide action.
14. Mass. Corridor. Laura reported that the project is still being reviewed by Mass. Highway. We don't know yet when the public hearing will be.
15. TIP changes. Forest Street is not on funding list, but moving forward through Mass. Highway review process so that it can be ready if funding becomes available.
16. Town Reports. Laura reported that the current owners of Symmes site are actively looking for a new buyer.
17. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.

Handouts:

Ed's Meeting Package: 1) Agenda 12/9/09; 2) Members of Arlington Transportation Advisory Committee, 7/9/09; 3) Memo from Marie Krepelka to Brian Sullivan Re. TAC Recommendations, Spy Pond Park/Pond Lane, dated November 5, 2009; 4) Memo from Marie Krepelka to Brian Sullivan Re: TAC Recommendations, Thorndike Field, Phase 2, dated November 5, 2009; 5) Memo from Marie Krepelka to Ed Starr Re: Request for Stop Sign @ Highland Ave. and High Haith Road, dated November 25, 2009; 6) Petition to install stop sign at the crossing of Highland Avenue and High Haith Road, stamp dated November 10, 2009; 7) Memo from Marie Krepelka to Ed Starr, Re: Traffic Concerns @ Eustis Street, dated April 13, 2009; 8) Letter to Marie Krepelka from Drs. Rebecca and David Porteous, dated March 19, 2009; 9) Memo from Lieutenant Robert Lake to Chief Frederick Ryan Re: Proposed speed bump—Eustis Street, Dated March 30, 2009; 10) Memo to Brian Sullivan From Marie Krepelka Re. Draft Program for Bicycle Safety, Dated November 18, 2009; 11) Letter to Board of Selectmen from Bob Radochia dated October 23, 2009, with pictures; 12) Maps entitled "Current Arlington Center Arrangement", and "Proposed Arlington Center Arrangement"; 13) Memo from SR Prakash to Ed Starr, Re: Student Safety Crossing Summer St. at Oak Hill, dated November 22, 2009; 14) Memo from Tim and Meg Moloney to Jack Hurd Re: North Union Street Parking, dated November 15, 2009; 15) Active/Planned TAC Projects and Working Groups, dated 12/9/09; 16) Project Status, dated 12/9/09; 17) Status of Outstanding Actions, dated 11/4/09; 18) Draft Actions from 11/4 TAC Meeting—Status as of 12/8; 19) Project Status, dated 11/4/09; 20) Scheduling TAC Stuff for BoS 12/9/09; 21) Memo from TAC to Board of Selectmen Re: Request for Crosswalk at Summer Street and Brookdale Ave. dated 12/14/09; 22) Memo from TAC to Board of Selectmen RE: Winslow Tower Residents Transportation Concerns, dated 12/14/09; 23) Memo from TAC to Board of Selectmen Re: Recommendations re Crosswalk on Broadway near Silk Street (Lahey Clinic), dated 12/14/09; 24) Memo from TAC to Board of Selectmen Re: Preliminary Recommendations re. Crosswalk on Chestnut Street, dated 11/4/09; 25) Thoughts about Mass/Mystic/Pleasant Intersection, version 2: 12/06/09; 26) Email from Erik Moore to Ed Starr and Elisabeth Carr-Jones Re. Street signs in Arlington, dated October 24, 2009; 27) "A Law Officer's Guide to Bicycle Safety" Powerpoint presentation.

Minutes of 11/4/09

School Area Signs for Arlington Schools

Parking in Arlington Center, from Vision 2020 draft survey